

EXHIBIT 32
DATE 3.26.07
SB 133SANDRA L. PEPOS INSURANCE AGENCY
FAX TRANSMITTAL SHEETDATE: 3-23-2007TO: Chairman Rice Joe (96)

COMPANY NAME: _____

PHONE #: _____

FAX #: 406-~~444~~ 444-4825FROM: Sandy PeposPAGE(S) INCL. COVER: 4

NOTES:

I know you are against this, but
here is my testimony I didn't
get to read!

Thx - for being so kind to Kamie!
She was so nervous! She is my
baby & I love her!

Thx —

914 20th Street South, Great Falls, MT 59405

406-453-6575

406-453-6576 (Fax)

Chairman Jore and members of the Education Committee ~

First of all thank you for this hearing and allowing my daughter and myself to speak regarding all day kindergarten.

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I have heard the opponents speak against this bill and now want to give you the perspective from a parent who has had two children go through the all day kindergarten program in the Great Falls Public School System.

1) I have heard the complaints and what people have to say - the first one being the children aren't children anymore. My children are. I am still their parent. Just because they attended all day kindergarten didn't make me any less their parent than a man on the moon. I don't expect the school to raise my children. That is my responsibility. I had two children that were very bored in preschool and knew how to count to 100 by the time they were 3 and knew all of their shapes, letters and everything else by the time they were 3. They were ready. We worked on work books and read stories, but they were still bored. I was lucky - Great Falls Public School System (one of the best in the State) has all day kindergarten. Both of my children excelled. My son is now reading at a 5th grade 4 month level and he is in 3rd Grade. His math consists of parellelograms, geometry, multiplication and division. His Science curriculum includes recycling, dinosaurs, and doing hands on science projects. My son has taken a huge interest in History and is studying all of the Presidents of the United States and politics. You have heard my daughter's story. She is reading at 3rd grade 6th month level, math consists of fractions, geometry and Math Facts in a Flash. Karrie loves Art, Music and history and science and is now reading at 120 words a

minute.

Do my children still get to be children that run and play? You bet. During the summer they spend a week at Bible Camp, 2 weeks with Grandma and Grandpa and their Great Aunts and Uncles on the farm outside of Fairfield, Montana. But they still manage to read 300 books due to summer reading programs at the Great Falls Public Library and OPI's reading program and practice their Math Facts in a Flash and do workbooks to keep brushed up on their vocabulary and math. Science is studied outside on the farm.

2) The second complaint I have heard is as a working mom I was looking for an alternative to day care. Don't punish me as it takes two people to make a household work unless you are rich and make over \$50,000 a year, which by the way we don't. I come from a farming family where my dad worked the land and worked hard. He farmed with 3 brothers. My mother is a public school teacher substituting in 5 school districts. Both of my brothers are public school teachers and I have cousins teaching in the public school system here in Montana, California and South Korea. I am well versed in public school funding and what it takes due to my Aunt serving as Past President of the National School Boards Association. I did not put my kids in all day kindergarten to get around day care and I really take offense to anyone telling me that. If anything Education is the foundation and cornerstone and is very important to my husband and I. Without a good education our children won't survive in this world today. Both kids are honor roll students.

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My parental responsibility isn't gone due to all day kindergarten. I still make sure my children are fed good meals, attend church every Sunday and be good citizens and stewards of the land as well as being an officer of the local PTA board. My children were helped with all day kindergarten and continue to thrive and have fun. Their teachers made it fun for them to be in school.

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Mrs. Kathy McLean, Principal at Sunnyside Elementary where my children attend school told me that all day kindergarten is an option. Parents can choose to go half day. But most of the time those children that go half day quit to go full day due to them asking their parents if they can go to all day kindergarten with their friends and the fun they have.

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I invite all of you to visit the Sunnyside Elementary School all day kindergarten program in Great Falls. Come see for yourself how much fun the teachers make it for the kids to learn and enjoy their day. These teachers - Lynn Ryerson, Amber Rausch, Anna Horton and Dea Foley enjoy what they do all day every day. The children are ready to move onto the other grades and the teachers in the next level grades enjoy these children and their ability learn.

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Thank you.